

FORT McCoy, BUILDING T-100 (POST ADMINISTRATION)
(Camp McCoy, Building T-100 (Post Administration))
Fort McCoy
Sparta vicinity
Monroe County
Wisconsin

HABS NO. WI-308-K

HABS
WIS,
41-SPAR.V,
1-K-

PHOTOGRAPHS AND
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FORT MCCOY, BUILDING T-100 (POST ADMINISTRATION)
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Location: Building T-100 is located approximately 200' due north of the intersection of East Headquarters Road, West Headquarters Road and South Headquarters Road in the center of the Fort McCoy "Triad," in Block 1 of the cantonment of the Main Post of Fort McCoy, in Monroe County, Wisconsin.¹

USGS Quadrangle Alderwood Lake, Wisconsin; 7.5 minute series 1983 (photorevised from 1978) UTM Coordinates: Zone 15: 4877100 N, 685380 E

Present Owner: Department of the Army

Original Use: Headquarters Building Type DHQ-I

Present Use: Post Headquarters

Significance: Building T-100 is significant as a relatively unmodified representative of temporary division headquarters.²

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of Erection: Construction of Building T-100 probably began in the summer/fall of 1942. There is a minor discrepancy on the date of building completion. Notations on the "As Built" drawing 800-204 state that the building was completed by 5 September 1942³; however the Real Property Records on file in Buildings T-2160 and T-2145 note the building as completed on 24 August 1942.⁴
2. Architect: George E. Bergstrom, Chief of the Architectural Unit in the Engineering Branch of the Construction Division, Quartermaster Corps, supervised the 1941 revision of the 700 series service club plans that produced the 800-204 series drawings in April 1941.⁵
3. Original and subsequent owners: The site for the expanded Camp McCoy military reservation was condemned and purchased by the War Department in the spring of 1942.⁶ The owner from 1942-47 was the War Department. Since 1947, the U.S. Department of the Army, the successor to the War Department has held title.

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4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: Building T-100 was part of construction area D at Fort McCoy. Bids for the construction of the cantonment were let in February 1942 and contracts were awarded in late March. The contracts for the seven principal construction areas were fixed-price in nature. The War Department purchased the lumber used in Building T-100 and the rest of the cantonment in the spring of 1942. The remaining materials used in construction were apparently purchased by subcontractors in the Wisconsin area.⁷
5. Original Plans and Construction: Building T-100 was built from 800 series plan number 800-204 and associated plan numbers 800-205, 800-206, 800-207, 800-208, 800-118, 800-119, 800-120, 800-121, 800-145, 800-151, 800-154, 800-157, 800-161, 800-185, 800-186, 800-190, 800-197, 800-199, and 800-142.⁸ The original plans used to construct Building T-100 are currently on file in "As Built" envelope #68 in Building T-2111. The original cost of the building was \$43,400.⁹ Noted alterations to the original building plan at the time of construction include the use of round concrete piers instead of square piers. The chimney height was reduced from 65'-0" to 50'-0". The knee bracing was deleted from rooms paralleling the entry and the service switch box in room 15 was changed from 100-amps to 200-amps.¹⁰
6. Alterations and additions: Alterations to the original plan, as noted above, include the use of concrete piers, the reduction of the chimney height, the elimination of knee bracing in two rooms and changing the electrical service amperage.¹¹ The following changes have been made to the structure since construction. The structure was rehabilitated in 1951. Changes included covering all existing bare walls with gypsum board, painting all stairs and concrete floors. All interior and exterior walls were painted with two coats of paint and all hardwood floors were covered with mastipave flooring.¹² The structure's exterior was repainted in 1958 and reroofed in 1961. In 1968 the front double doors were replaced with two 2'-6" x 6'-8" aluminum doors, all 6" x 6" posts were replaced with 2" x 6" wall bracing and ceilings were dropped from 8'-7" to 7'-0" and covered with acoustical tile. In 1971, the coal furnace was replaced with an LP gas unit and the water heater was converted to electricity. In 1976, 1978 and 1979 ceiling and wall insulation was installed. In 1984, the west wing was altered for the construction of a conference room, three air conditioners were installed, rooms 107, 109, 112, 113, 115 and 201 were carpeted, and two rear-view projection screens were installed in the conference room. Other alterations noted are the replacement of the original grayish white cement asbestos siding in some areas with white and dark gray siding, the addition of fiberglass foundation skirting, the replacement of a ventilation louver on the front, and the addition of inset aluminum storm frames have been added to the existing windows.

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B. Historical Context:

The construction of Building T-100 was part of a massive, nation-wide mobilization program designed to build cantonments to house and train the expanded World War II Army. The 800 series, and the 700 series that preceded it, was a comprehensive set of drawings which could be used interchangeably in creating the various building types. Through the construction of temporary wood-frame buildings such as Building T-100, the 1939 housing capacity of 200,00 was increased to 6,000,000 person by the close of the mobilization program in the fall of 1944. In addition, war mobilization buildings are significant for their construction and technological innovation. Techniques such as the standardization of plans, prefabrication of units and assembly-line approach to construction were largely developed in the construction of these mobilization structures.

Building T-100 is the main post headquarters constructed in the main cantonment area of the "New Camp McCoy", mobilization cantonment built by the War Department between the entrance of the United States into World War II in late 1941 and early 1943.¹³ The 1941-43 cantonments were constructed to house and serve as training bases for approximately 525,000 men drafted for Army service after the declaration of war.¹⁴ Two newly organized Army Divisions occupied Camp McCoy during their training. The Second Army Division arrived soon after the completion of construction in the fall of 1942 and remained until November 1943, leaving for action in the Italian Campaign. The 76th Division then took over, remaining until December 1944, when they departed for service in the Battle of the Bulge and the subsequent occupation of Germany. Additionally, engineer, railhead, field artillery, tank destroyer, ordnance, and maintenance troops were trained at Camp McCoy concurrently with the Second and 76th Divisions.¹⁵ In 1944, Camp McCoy also became personnel center for the Army, receiving and redirecting soldiers for new assignments. The following year the personnel center began also to discharge veterans as the war came to a close. The personnel center closed in 1946, and most other functions of the camp halted a year later.¹⁶

After three years of relative inactivity, Camp McCoy was reactivated by the Defense Department for training of Regular, Reserve, and National Guard Units in the Fifth Army Area for service in the Korean War. Since 1953 the camp has become a center for training reserve units of the Army and National Guard Regiments of the Midwest Region.¹⁷

Building T-100 was assigned to the Second Division from 16 November 1942 until 2 August 1943 when they were relieved by the 76th Division. The 76th division was relieved by the IX Corps Artillery on 22 November 1944. The IX corps Artillery was relieved by the VI Corps Artillery on 2 February 1951. All listings on assignees after this date state the building was assigned to "HQ Commandant."¹⁸

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION:

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: Building T-100 is a well preserved relatively unmodified example of typical 800 series, type DHQ-1 Division Headquarters.
2. Condition of Fabric: The general condition of Building T-100 is good. Areas of deterioration noted in the structure exterior include places where the original cement asbestos siding has fallen off and been replaced.

B. Description of the Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: Building 100 is an H-shaped building with a main block and two wings. The main structure measures 29'-6" x 60'-0" and the wings measure 29'-6" x 70'-0". The height from grade to the roof ridge is approximately 26'-0".¹⁹ The 29'-6" width dimension also occurs in Buildings T-1129, T-1863, and T-2002. The roof ridge height is approximately the same as the type BKS-74 two-story barracks.
2. Foundations: Building T-100 rests on a system of concrete piers and footings. The perimeter footings are 2'-0" x 2'-0" while those under the interior columns are 2'-3" x 2'-3". Both footing sizes are 1'-0" deep.
3. Walls: The exterior walls of Building T-100 consist of three layers: wooden sheathing, black construction paper, and cement asbestos siding measuring 11" x 24", the standard size used throughout the cantonment.
4. Structural System, framing: Building T-100, and all 800 series mobilization structures, are of light frame construction. A pitched chord truss with bolted connections supports the roof.
5. Porches, stoops: The structure has a covered porch on the south front that measures 11'-6" x 26'-0". The porch roof is supported by six simple round columns resting on brick pedestals.
6. Chimneys: The chimney, like all others at McCoy, is constructed of red-buff brick in a running bond with Portland cement mortar. The chimney is 50'-0" in height and 5'-3" square. It has a fire clay flue lining and rests on a 10" thick concrete footing.²⁰
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and Doors: At the south entrance there is a double doorway with aluminum doors. At the north rear there are two single-light metal doors on the center of the first and second floors on each wing and one,

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single-light metal door at the rear entry to the main building.

- b. Windows: The windows are eight-over-eight-light double-hung sash. There are twenty-three at both of the south front and north rear, and ten windows at both the east and west sides. All windows have inset aluminum storm screens.

C. Description of the Interior:

1. Floor Plans:

- a. Basement: There is no basement under Building T-100.
- b. Main Floor: Building T-100, as constructed in 1942, had a gross area of 11,800 square feet.
- c. Attic: The attic contains the roof trusses.

- 2. Stairways: There is a wood stairway to the second level immediately off of the rear entrance on the north side of the building. Exit stairs are visible on the exterior of each of the lateral wings on the north side of the building.

- 3. Flooring: The offices for the executive officers are carpeted. The rest of the facility is covered with 9" x 9" vinyl composition tile. The entry foyer also contains a roll carpet embellished with an Army herald.

- 4. Wall and Ceiling finishes: The ceiling and walls are finished with gypsum board and painted.

- 5. Openings: There are no interior openings.

- 6. Decorative Trim: There is no decorative trim.

7. Mechanical Equipment:

- a. Heating: The structure was originally heated by a coal-fired steam boiler with an electric stoker. Heat was dissipated via steam radiators.²¹ The structure is currently heated with LP gas.
- b. Kitchen appliances: The executive officers' area has a small coffee bar with a microwave oven.
- c. Ventilation: The building is vented through four, 12" metal gravity vents along the roof ridge. Wooden louvers are also present on the north and south walls.

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- d. Lighting: No original lighting preserved. Current lighting needs served through fluorescent ambient and task luminaires.

D. Site:

1. General Setting and orientation: Building T-100, and the other buildings of Block 1, are located at the center of the Fort McCoy "Triad." The building is located within a complex also containing the post finance office, a library, officers club, NCO open mess and housing.²²
2. Historical Landscape Design: Directly south and north of the building there are asphalt parking lots. Ornamental trees and shrubs have been planted along all elevations. The remainder of the building lot is relatively flat and planted in grasses.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

- A. Architectural Drawings: Building T-100 was built from 800 series plan number 800-204, and supplemented with 800-205, 800-206, 800-207, 800-208, 800-118, 800-119, 800-120, 800-121, 800-145, 800-151, 800-154, 800-157, 800-161, 800-185, 800-186, 800-190, 800-197, 800-199, 800-142.

B. Bibliography:

1. Primary and unpublished sources:
 - a. Standard Mobilization Drawings 800 Series Plan number 800-204*, 800-205, 800-206, 800-207, and 800-208, 800-118, 800-119, 800-120, 800-121, 800-145, 800-151, 800-154, 800-157, 800-161, 800-185, 800-186, 800-190, 800-197, 800-199, 800-142. (* This plan was modified at Ft. McCoy.)
 - b. Office of the Area Engineer, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. "Camp McCoy Project--General Layout Plan No. 6150-L, May 23, 1942.
 - c. Record Drawing file #68 in "As Built" Files, Building T-2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
 - d. Real Property Record. Building and Structures, Building T-2145, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
2. Secondary and Published sources:

"As Built" file # 68, Building T-2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

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Basic Information Map, Fort McCoy Wisconsin, General Site Map North Fort Sheet 3a of 13. Office of the Facilities Engineer, Building T-2160. Original January-11-1965; Revision #11 June-4-1976.

Buildings and Structures Descriptions, from box marked "Save Historical"; Building T-2145 (Meatlocker), Fort McCoy, Original typed entries, undated.

Equipment Records, from file marked "Equipment Records"; Building T-2145 (Meatlocker), Fort McCoy, original typed entries, undated.

"Historical Summary", typescript summary of the history of Camp McCoy prepared by the Public Affairs Office, Fort McCoy n.d., ca. 1985, p. 6.

Lenore Fine and Jesse A. Remington, *The Corps of Engineers: Construction in the United States*. [volume in the series, *United States Army in World War II: The Technical Services*] Washington, D.C.: Office of the Chief of Military History, United States Army).

Office of the Area Engineer, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. "Camp McCoy Project--General Layout Plan No. 6150-1-L, May 23, 1942. Original blueprint print in map file cabinet Building T-2145 "Meatlocker".

Post Engineer Office Historical Data, Document dated 15 January 1946, on file Building T-2145 "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

Real property records file; Building T-2160, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. Also see original Real Property Record cards filebox in Building T-2145 "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

"To Condemn 9600 acres for McCoy," *Sparta Herald*, February 9, 1942, p. 1.

Unmarked wooden File Box, Building T-2145, "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. File contains 4x5 cards listing buildings and assignees.

C. Likely Sources Not Investigated:

1. Documentary: Information of firm charged with the construction of Building T-100 may be available. Additional data may be available in the National Archives on George E. Bergstrom and the other architects who produced and revised the 800 series Standard Drawings.
2. Oral History: Interviews could be conducted with personnel involved in the construction of the Division Headquarters at Fort McCoy and the military records and local area could be searched for personnel who may have worked at the headquarters.

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D. Supplemental Materials:

1. The original "As Built" drawing for Building T-100 are filed in Building T-2111, at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. Standard plans for the 800 series DHQ-1 are available from the National Archives.

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PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The documentation of Fort McCoy was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) of the National Park Service, Robert J. Kapsch, chief, during the summer of 1988. The project was sponsored by the United States Army, Environmental Office, Colonel Ronald G. Kelsey, chief, with the assistance of Constance W. Ramirez, Historic Preservation Officer for the U.S. Army. Local sponsorship was provided at Fort McCoy by the base Commander, Colonel Sorensen, and by Al Balliett and Marvin Westenburg of the Environmental Division; John Calvert, Engineering Planning and Services Division; and Robert Wells, Real Property. The project was managed through the HABS/HAER WASO office by John A. Burns, architect, and project leader and Catherine Crawford, HABS historian. The documentation was undertaken at the HABS/HAER field office at Fort McCoy by James Glass, HABS/HAER, and by Keith Landreth, U.S. Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (USACERL), Champaign, Illinois. Large-format photography was done by Martin Stupich.

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NOTES:

1. Basic Information map, Fort McCoy Wisconsin, General Site Map North Fort Sheet 3a of 13. Office of the Facilities Engineer, Bldg 2160. Original January -11-1965; Revision #11 June-4-1976.
2. Buildings and Structures Descriptions, from box marked "Save Historical"; Building 2145 (Meatlocker), Fort McCoy, Original typed entries, undated.
3. Completion label appended to Record Drawing # 800-204. "As Built" envelope #68, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
4. Real property records file; Building 2160, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. Also see original Real Property Record cards filebox in Building 2145 "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
5. Lenore Fine and Jesse A. Remington, *The Corps of Engineers: Construction in the United States*. [volume in the series, *United States Army in World War II: The Technical Services*,] (Washington, D.C.: Office of the Chief of Military History, United States Army), pp. 349.
6. "To Condemn 9600 acres for McCoy," *Sparta Herald*, February 9, 1942, p. 1.
7. Office of the Area Engineer, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. "Camp McCoy Project--General Layout Plan No. 6150-1-L, May 23, 1942. Original blueline print in map file cabinet building 2145 "Meatlocker."
8. "As Built" envelope #68, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. Real Property Records, Building 2160, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
9. Real Property Records, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
10. "As Built" envelope #68, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
11. Ibid.
12. Real Property Records, Buildings 2160 and 2145, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
13. Post Engineer Office Historical Data, Document dated 15, January 1946, on file Building 2145 "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
14. Diane Wasch and Perry Busch, (draft) "History of the Design and Construction of Temporary World War II Buildings by the War Department." Historic American Buildings Survey, National Park Service, Washington, D.C., 1988, pp. 42, 47.
15. Post Engineer Office Historical Data, Document dated 15, January 1946, on file Building 2145 "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
16. Ibid.
17. "Historical Summary," typescript summary of the history of Camp McCoy prepared by the Public Affairs Office, Fort McCoy nd., ca.1985, p. 6.

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18. Unmarked wooden File Box, building 2145, "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. File contains 4x5 cards listing buildings and assignees.
19. From "Standard 700 Series Drawings 1155 to ---" in map file, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
20. Standard Plan 800-204 Detail #29. in record Drawing file #69 in "As Built" Files, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
21. "As Built" file #68, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
22. Basic Information Map, Fort McCoy Wisconsin, General Site Map North Fort Sheet 3a of 13. Office of the Facilities Engineer, Bldg 2160. Original January -11-1965; Revision #11 June-4-1976.